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AN

# ACCOUNT

OF THE

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## TRUSTEES *of the* PUBLICK INFIRMARY *in* James-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, *near* St. James's Park, *from their firſt Inſtitution in the Year* 1719, *to* March 29. 1738, *incluſive.*

THO' the Riſe, Progreſs, and Succeſs of this Charity is now ſo well known, at leaſt to the Inhabitants of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, that any Introduction to the Account annually publiſhed by Order of the Truſtees thereof, may ſeem unneceſſary; yet, as this may fall into the Hands of ſeveral charitable and well-diſpoſed Perſons, who have either not heard of it, or have not been acquainted with the Methods by which it was firſt promoted, and has, for many Years, been ſucceſsfully carried on, it is thought proper to inform them, that in the Year 1719. ſeveral well-diſpoſed Gentlemen, deſirous to lay the Foundation of a moſt beneficent and extenſive Charity, *viz.* That of providing for ſuch ſick and needy Perſons as were deſtitute of proper Aſſiſtance, and oftentimes of common Neceſſaries, after frequent Meetings, and due Conſideration, agreed, That nothing would more effectually anſwer the End propoſed, than fixing an Infirmary in *St. Margaret*'s Pariſh, (there being nothing of that Sort within the populous City and Liberties of *Weſtminſter*) and ſupporting the ſame by voluntary Contributions from Year to Year: In order to this, it was, in the firſt Place, thought neceſſary to prepare a Subſcription Roll, the Preamble of which was accordingly drawn up, and agreed to, as follows, *viz.*

*WHEREAS great Numbers of ſick Perſons in this City languiſh for Want of Neceſſaries, and too often die miſerably, who are not intitled to a Parochial Relief; and, whereas, amongſt thoſe who do receive Relief from their reſpective Pariſhes, many ſuffer extremely, and are ſometimes loſt, partly for Want of Accommodations and proper Medicines in their own Houſes or Lodgings, (the Cloſeneſs and Unwholeſomeneſs of which is too often one great Cauſe of their Sickneſs) partly by the imprudent Laying-out of what is ſo allowed, and by the Ignorance or Ill-management of thoſe about them:*

*WE, whoſe Names are under-written, in Obedience to the Rules of our holy Religion, deſiring, ſo far as in us lies, to find ſome Remedy for this great Miſery of our poor Neighbours, do ſubſcribe the following Sums of Money to be by Us paid Yearly (during Pleaſure) by Quarterly Payments, for the procuring, furniſhing, and defraying the neceſſary Expences of an Infirmary, or Place of Entertainment, for ſuch poor ſick Perſons, inhabiting in the Pariſh of* St. Margaret, Weſtminſter, *or* Others, *who ſhall be recommended by any of the Subſcribers or Benefactors, with the Approbation and Conſent*

*ſent of the major Part of the Truſtees preſent; who are likewiſe impowered to allow ſuitable Relief to ſuch ſick Perſons, approved in the Manner above-mentioned, as are incapable of being removed from their reſpective Abodes.*

AS ALL SUBSCRIBERS ARE TRUSTEES OF THIS CHARITY, ſo the more they will pleaſe to engage themſelves in conducting the Affairs of it, they will ſtill be the greater Benefactors to it, and will alſo be able to ſatisfy themſelves that the Money given is juſtly and frugally applied.

A Number of Truſtees meet every *Wedneſday*, at Five in the Evening, who chearfully and readily give their Attendance, without any Expence to the Charity. At theſe Meetings their Incomes and Diſburſements are ſtated and adjuſted, the particular Accounts of each regularly kept, and Patients are admitted and diſcharged. There are alſo held four times in a Year General Boards, to which all Truſtees are ſummoned, when Matters relating to the Infirmary (of greater Moment than thoſe tranſacted at the Weekly Boards) are taken into Conſideration; and by a Majority of the Members preſent, all Orders have, from time to time, been made, altered, or reverſed, as Occaſion required.

DR. *Cotes*, and Dr. *Hoadley* are the preſent Phyſicians, Mr. *Pyle* and Mr. *Price* are the Surgeons in Ordinary, and Mr. *Pyle*, jun. Aſſiſtant Surgeon. Mr. *Cheſelden* gives his Aſſiſtance, as often as deſired, in Operations for the Stone.

THE ſeveral Apothecaries, who are Truſtees, take care, in their Turns, to procure the beſt Medicines, at the beſt Hand; which are not received in, nor paid for, till they are inſpected and approved of by a Committee of the Phyſicians, Surgeons and Apothecaries of the Society, who meet every firſt *Monday* in the Month at the Infirmary for that Purpoſe; and great Care is taken that the Medicines are properly diſpenſed, and duly adminiſtred, according to the Preſcriptions and Directions of the Phyſicians.

AND for the Good of the Souls, as well as the Bodies of theſe poor Patients, ſeveral worthy Clergymen do conſtantly and carefully viſit and inſtruct them; and, at their Diſcharge, Books are given to them. Other worthy Gentlemen take the Trouble of inſpecting daily the Proviſions and good Order of the Houſe. All theſe Gentlemen are Truſtees, and attend without Fee or Reward.

THE Society have lately inlarged their Charity in two Particulars, *viz.* Cloathing the Poor whilſt they continue in the Houſe, (for the more Cleanlineſs, and good Order) and Entertaining Patients deemed incurable; the latter of which has been encouraged, and is ſtill ſupported by particular Benefactions for that Purpoſe, and for whoſe Uſe a ſeparate Ward is provided.

THEY propoſe at preſent to receive ſuch incurable Patients only as ſhall have been in the Infirmary for a competent Time, and, after the Uſe of all proper Medicines and Methods, are judged at laſt to be incurable, and to maintain them out of the Intereſt-Money ariſing from the ſaid Benefactions.

AS the Nature and End of this Undertakeing ſufficiently appear by the foregoing Particulars, ſo does the Succeſs of it by the following Account, in which the Number of Perſons cured, the Sums of Money received, expended, and remaining at this Time in Bank, are all carefully and juſtly ſpecified.

AND having been purſued ſo far with ſuch extraordinary Succeſs, encouraged by the Care and Liberality of ſo many Subſcribers and Benefactors, and, above all, ſo viſibly ſupported by the Bleſſing of GOD, we doubt not but it will long continue to promote his Glory, and the Benefit of the Bodies and Souls of Numbers of poor People.

WE have therefore good Reaſon to hope, that the Religious, Virtuous and Benevolent, whoſe Fortunes enable them to do Good, will with Chearfulneſs encourage a Work ſo humane and uſeful to the moſt miſerable of their Fellow Creatures.

AND for the Information of ſuch Charitable Perſons who may be diſpoſed to contribute hereto by their Laſt Will and Teſtament, we are deſired to publiſh the following Form:

Item, *I Give and bequeath unto* A. B. *and* C. D. *the Sum of*
*upon Truſt, and to the Intent, that they, or one of them, do pay the ſame to the Treaſurer or Treaſurers, for the Time being, of a Society, who now call themſelves, The Truſtees of the Publick Infirmary in* James-ſtreet, Weſtminſter; *which ſaid Sum of*
*I deſire may be applied towards Carrying on the Charitable Deſigns of the ſaid Society.*

A FORM whereby a Subſcriber may recommend a PATIENT.

GENTLEMEN, *Day of* 1738.

*I Deſire you will admit* A. B. *of the Pariſh of in the County of*
*to be an* In-Patient *in your Infirmary, and you will oblige*

*Your humble Servant.*

If an *Out-Patient*, expreſs it, inſtead of *In-Patient*.

To the Truſtees of the Publick Infirmary in *James-ſtreet, Weſtminſter.*

IT is alſo neceſſary that the Patient ſhould bring a Security from ſome ſubſtantial Perſon, to defray the Expence of Burial, in caſe he or ſhe ſhall die in the Infirmary, or Removal when diſcharged; for which the following or like Form will be ſufficient:

*I Hereby promiſe to defray all Expences which may attend the Burial or Removal of the ſaid* A. B.

*N. B.* Each Subſcriber may have one In-Patient, and one Out-Patient at the ſame time.

*An*

*An Account of Patients which have been admitted into this Infirmary, from the firſt Inſtitution to the 29th of* March 1738, *incluſive.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| By former Accounts from 1719, to the 30th of *March* 1737 | | | 5947 |
| Cured this Year | | 317 | |
| Diſcharged for Irregularity | | 4 | |
| Out-Patients diſcharged for not attending, ſuppoſed Cured | | 377 | |
| Diſcharged incurable, being more than that Fund could ſupport | | 3 | |
| Diſcharged as improper Objects | | 4 | |
| Dead (Two whereof were upon the Fund for Incurables) | | 48 | |
| Out-Patients then on the Books | 190 | | |
| Patients then in the Houſe | 64 | 258 | |
| And on the Fund for Incurables | 4 | | |
| Total in 1737. | | | 1011 |
| | | In all | 6958 |

Note, *Twenty-ſix of which were ſudden Accidents ſent in without any Recommendation.*

*N. B.* The Phyſicians and Surgeons give their Advice *gratis*, every *Tueſday* and *Friday*, at Ten in the Morning, to any poor diſeaſed Perſons who think fit to attend.

*A General Abſtract of the Account, from the* 30*th of* March 1737, *to the* 29*th of* March 1738, *incluſive.*

## For the CURABLES.

RECEIPTS, *viz.*

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Balance of the laſt Year's Account | | | | | | | 3324 | 14 | 1½ |
| Subſcriptions this Year | 1058 | 6 | 6 | | | | | | |
| Benefactions | 311 | 9 | 4½ | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1369 | 15 | 10½ | | | |
| LEGACY, *viz.* From | | | | | | | | | |
| Mrs. *Mercy Povey* | | | | 20 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| INTEREST, *viz.* | | | | | | | | | |
| Of *Eaſt-India* Bonds | | | | 42 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Of Capt. *Taylor*'s Legacy | 17 | 10 | 0 | | | | | | |
| And of his long Annuity | 27 | 10 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 45 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 1476 | 15 | 10½ |
| Total Receipts | | | | | | | 4801 | 10 | 0 |

## For the CURABLES.

PAYMENTS, *viz.*

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houſe-keeping, including Beer, Coals, Waſhing, *&c.* | 592 | 13 | 6 | | | | | | |
| A Year's Houſe-Rents to *Chriſtmas* 1737 | 60 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Medicines diſpenſed | 213 | 19 | 0¾ | | | | | | |
| Salaries and Wages | 144 | 18 | 4 | | | | | | |
| Tradeſmens Bills | 59 | 6 | 11 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1070 | 17 | 9¾ | | | |
| EXTRAORDINARIES. | | | | | | | | | |
| Linen for the Houſe and Patients | 26 | 7 | 0 | | | | | | |
| For Cloathing | 52 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| The Painter's Bill for the Tables of Benefactions and Legacies | 8 | 17 | 0 | | | | | | |
| *Premium* and Intereſt on two *India* Bonds bought | 16 | 0 | 10 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 103 | 4 | 10 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 1174 | 2 | 7¾ |
| Balance in the Treaſurer's Hands the 29th of *March* 1738, incluſive, at the laſt Audit | | | | | | | 3627 | 7 | 4¼ |
| | | | | | | | 4801 | 10 | 0 |

## For the INCURABLES.

RECEIPTS, *viz.*

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Balance of the laſt Year's Account | | | | | | | 766 | 16 | 8 |
| Benefactions this Year | 264 | 7 | 0 | | | | | | |
| LEGACIES, *viz.* From | | | | | | | | | |
| Mrs. *Elizabeth Squire* | 300 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Mrs. *Thomaſin Bent* | 10 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 310 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Half a Year's Dividend due at *Midſummer* 1737, on 750 *l.* New *South-Sea* Annuities. | 15 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Half a Year's Dividend due at *Chriſtmas* 1737, on 1000 *l.* in the ſame. | 20 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 35 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 609 | 7 | 0 |
| Total Receipts | | | | | | | 1376 | 3 | 8 |

## For the INCURABLES.

PAYMENTS, *viz.*

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A Year's Houſe-Rent to *Chriſtmas* 1737 | | | | 5 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| EXTRAORDINARIES. | | | | | | | | | |
| Tradeſmens Bills for Furniture and Alterations | | | | 30 | 9 | 6 | | | |
| *Premium* on 250 *l.* in the New *South-Sea* Annuities, purchaſed in the Names of *Mark Thurſton*, and *Richard Hoare*, Eſqs; | 26 | 17 | 6 | | | | | | |
| *Premium* on 300 *l.* in the *South-Sea* (or Old) Annuities, purchaſed likewiſe in their Names | 33 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 59 | 17 | 6 | | | |
| For the Support of Five this Year, Two whereof died | 22 | 9 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 117 | 16 | 0 |
| Balance the 29th of *March* 1738, incluſive, at the laſt Audit | | | | | | | 1258 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | | | | | 1376 | 3 | 8 |

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Receipts from the firſt Inſtitution of this Infirmary, *Anno* 1719, (for the Curables) to the 30th of *March* 1737, incluſive | 14898 | 2 | 0¼ | | | |
| Receipts for the Year 1737 | 1476 | 15 | 10½ | | | |
| | | | | 16374 | 17 | 10¾ |
| Receipts from the Eſtabliſhment of the Incurables, *Anno* 1734, to the 30th of *March* 1737, incluſive | 916 | 1 | 10 | | | |
| Receipts for the Year 1737 | 609 | 7 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | 1525 | 8 | 10 |
| Total Receipts for both Charities to the 29th of *March* 1738, incluſive | | | | 17900 | 6 | 8¾ |

| | l. | s. | d. | l. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Payments from the firſt Inſtitution of this Infirmary, *Anno* 1719, (for the Curable) to the 30th of *March* 1737, incluſive | 11573 | 7 | 10¾ | | | |
| Payments for the Year 1737 | 1174 | 2 | 7¾ | | | |
| | | | | 12747 | 10 | 6½ |
| Payments from the Eſtabliſhment for the Incurables, *Anno* 1734, to the 30th of *March* 1737, incluſive | 149 | 5 | 2 | | | |
| Payments for the Year 1737 | 117 | 16 | 0 | 267 | 1 | 2 |
| Total Payments for both Charities, to the 29th of *March* 1738, incluſive | | | | 13014 | 11 | 8½ |
| Balance then of the Whole | | | | 4885 | 15 | 0¼ |
| | | | | 17900 | 6 | 8¾ |

N. B. *Since this Account was cloſed, Her late Majeſty's Royal Gift and Bounty of One Hundred Pounds has been paid in by His Majeſty's Command.*

AN

# ACCOUNT

OF THE

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# TRUSTEES

OF THE

# PUBLICK INFIRMARY

IN

James-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, *near* St. James's Park,

*From their firſt Inſtitution in the Year* 1719, *to* March 29*th*, 1738, *incluſive.*